



Daily Report

LAST ISSUE

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LAST ISSUE

Sub-Saharan Africa

FBIS-AFR-96-158

Wednesday

14 August 1996

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Sub-Saharan Africa

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Burundi

Burundi: Buyoya Signs Decree Appointing New Governors

EA1308194296 *Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in Kirundi 1700 GMT 13 Aug 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] The head of state, today signed a decree appointing provincial governors as follows:

Cankuzo, (Henri Tuzagi);
Cibitoke, Lieutenant Colonel Marcel Sinarinzi;
Gitega, Lt. Col. Louis Murengera;
Muramvya, Nestor Niyungeko.

The head of state also appointed senior advisers to the provincial governors as follows: Lt. Col. Charles Nyabenda in Makamba Province; Commander Joseph Sabubwa in Ruyigi Province.

Burundi: Foreign Minister Interviewed on Reasons for Coup, Embargo

BR1308125296 *Brussels LE SOIR in French 13 Aug 96 p 2*

[Interview with Burundian Foreign Minister Luc Rukingama by Colette Braeckman; place and date not given]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Braeckman] What caused Major Buyoya, who had retired from politics, to suddenly seize power in a military coup?

[Rukingama] The catastrophic situation Burundi found itself in with a lack of leadership, a paralyzed administration, and government divisions. Even the educational establishments were closed, the administrative institutions were no longer working. We had reached deadlock; there was no other alternative but to form a government of national security.

[Braeckman] Why would this government have more chance of succeeding than its predecessor; what advantages does it have?

[Rukingama] First the confidence of the people, who know President Buyoya, who know what he has done for national unity, who look back with fondness to the early 1990's which were so full of hope. This government also includes people of every political persuasion, many ministers are from the FRODEBU [Front for Democracy in Burundi], and there are as many Hutus and Tutsis.... You should also note that nobody is calling for the return to power of former President Ntubantunganya, not at home or abroad....

[Braeckman] Why should the Army be more able than before to end the violence? Can we expect the military

to deal with these militias of young Tutsis who murder people in the streets of Bujumbura?

[Rukingama] The present team will succeed because it is not playing a double game: The previous government included ministers who secretly encouraged the extremists. We want to deepen the national debate and openly tackle problems of justice and security. As for the Army, President Buyoya knows it well and can help it to overcome its weaknesses and impose discipline. I also believe he will be able to bring to heel the Tutsi militias. He has already spoken with their leaders and is talking with the students who practiced violence at the university.

[Braeckman] Do you really believe you will be able to bring to justice the killers of President Ndadaye who were members of Buyoya's entourage?

[Rukingama] One of the government's priorities in any event is to fight against nonprosecution, whoever is concerned.

[Braeckman] Who did you meet with during your recent "explanation tour" abroad?

[Rukingama] I have already met with several African leaders, including former President Nyerere, and I will be in Paris later this week. In Brussels it was vacation time and I met with certain individuals in a private capacity, but without official contacts.

[Braeckman] What is your reaction to the embargo imposed on your country by its neighbors?

[Rukingama] I will reply by quoting a Burundian proverb: I hope that the embargo will not stop the rain from falling, or peace from being made. Rain comes from the sky, and the government is working for peace. As regards the embargo, I can only condemn its severity. It is even contrary to international law which states that humanitarian aid must be allowed to pass (footnote 1) and that you cannot seal off landlocked countries. I also know it is going to affect a population which is already weakened by three years of violence: Burundian coffee auctions have been suspended and that hurts the hill farmers, not the city dignitaries. In any event, we have reserves, of fuel in particular, to meet our immediate needs.

[Braeckman] Why is Burundi so opposed to the Arusha agreements which provided for foreign military assistance?

[Rukingama] Because they had a hidden agenda: We discovered plans to send 20,000 foreign soldiers to Burundi, with the first few thousand due to arrive in early August. A Tanzanian general had already been appointed to manage operations and substantial financing

was earmarked, from Germany, the Scandinavian countries, the Anglo-Saxon world, and elsewhere. The fact that the seizure of power by President Buyoya caused this project to fail must have caused some disappointment, perhaps even financial disappointment. Perhaps it is this disappointment which is motivating those who now want us to give in. What is certain is that the idea of foreign intervention is going to restore the feeling of national unity and the nationalism of all Burundians, Hutus and Tutsis. It will help them to resist the pressure and the embargo.

[Braeckman] Why have the neighboring English-speaking countries decided to adopt such a radical blockade?

[Rukingama] We noted that some of our trucks were held up in Tanzania even before the embargo decision had been made. We have the feeling that Burundi has become the pawn in a test of strength between the English-speaking and the French-speaking world.... The former gives its full support to former President Nyerere, who seems to take personal pride in this....

Footnote 1: Tanzania announced on Monday [12 August] evening that it would allow the passage of humanitarian aid convoys bound for refugees in Burundi.

Burundi: Foreign Minister on Official Visit to France

*EA1308212496 Kigali Radio Rwanda in English
1830 GMT 13 Aug 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Burundian foreign affairs and cooperation minister, Luc Rukingama, is on an official visit in France in an effort to inform the international community [on] the purpose of the coup in Burundi, so that the economic sanctions can be lifted. The French leaders also expressed concern over the assistance for refugees in Burundi which were not reaching them, as a result of sanctions, and said that the issue had to be reviewed.

The Burundian foreign affairs minister, who was in Belgium before, said the economic sanctions on Burundi will cause bad effects to the local people and that it is not the way of restoring peace and order in the country.

Burundi: Paris Urges Rukingama To Start 'Nonexclusive' Dialogue

*BR1408094896 Paris AFP in French
1759 GMT 13 Aug 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] Paris, 13 Aug (AFP) — France advocated the virtues of a "nonexclusive" dialogue in Burundi when it received Luc Rukingama, head of

diplomacy of the new government led by the Tutsi Pierre Buyoya, in Paris on Monday [12 August].

Mr. Rukingama was received by senior officials from the Foreign Ministry, who reiterated an "urgent appeal for correct conduct by the Army" and expressed concern about the fate of leaders from the former regime who have taken refuge in embassies in Bujumbura, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

On 25 July, the Army, which has a Tutsi majority, brought Major Buyoya to power after toppling Hutu President Sylvestre Ntibantunganya. Since then, the Army has regularly been accused by the Hutu rebellion of committing atrocities.

Paris, which has not condemned the coup and refuses, like other Western capitals, to impose economic sanctions on the new regime, is encouraging the new government to work toward national reconciliation and dialogue. According to the ministry spokesman, France is urging the new authorities to make "a very speedy commitment to a dialogue comprising all elements of the Burundi spectrum, in a nonexclusive manner, in order to negotiate an institutional consensus."

According to the same source, Paris is also stressing "the need to find, without delay, an appropriate outcome with the guarantees needed regarding the safety of the Burundian leaders who have taken refuge in the embassies." Several leaders, including the toppled president, have found refuge in the embassies of the United States, Germany, Belgium, and France, among others.

Lastly, Paris reiterated its desire for a Great Lakes countries conference to be held under the aegis of the United Nations and the OAU in order to "settle, in a lasting manner, the crises which are affecting the region." The Burundian minister, who arrived Monday evening in Paris from Brussels, is due to hold a news conference on Wednesday.

Burundi: Foreigners 'Standing in Line' at Sabena Office in Bujumbura

*BR1308125596 Brussels DE MORGEN in Dutch
13 Aug 96 p 10*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Yesterday large numbers of people were standing in line at the Sabena offices in Bujumbura to obtain tickets for the last two flights to Brussels. Today two Sabena DC-10 aircraft will leave Bujumbura at almost the same time. They will probably be the last flights for some time to come. African countries declared an embargo against Burundi's military regime that came to power through a coup d'etat on 25 July.

Yesterday the two Sabena flight were almost fully booked. Sabena also has to take those passengers who had booked on last Saturday's [10 August] Air France flight which was canceled. Yesterday France called on its remaining nationals in Burundi to take one of the flights to Brussels.

Sabena has a capacity for about 600 passengers but that will not be enough for all the foreigners that want to leave the country. The U.S. ambassador is trying to have a military aircraft come from Nairobi to fly out the remaining foreigners.

Sabena aircraft make a stopover in Entebbe, Uganda, where the government has promised to refuel them. Last Friday Air France, and later also Sabena, decided to suspend more flights to Burundi because Uganda had threatened to stop refueling their aircraft. Uganda, Tanzania, and Kenya are the frontrunners in the Burundi embargo. Burundi is now completely isolated from the outside world since Zaire also joined the sanctions the other day. [passage omitted]

Burundi: AFP: Ntubantunganya's Wife To Depart on Sabena Flight

AB1308194896 Paris AFP in English
1621 GMT 13 Aug 96

[Article by Serge Arnold]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Bujumbura, Aug 13 (AFP) — Hundreds of people packed the airport here Tuesday [13 August] for the last two scheduled commercial flights out of the strife-torn country, as international sanctions against the new military regime began to bite.

Some 400 Burundians and foreigners were to fly with the Belgian airline Sabena out of Burundi, which is already cut off from the world by an economic blockade imposed by neighboring states and the closure of its land borders.

Diplomats said the wife of deposed Hutu president Sylvestre Ntubantunganya would be taking one of the flights, which were to take off from Bujumbura at 7:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. (1730 and 1830 GMT). They did not rule out that her husband might be aboard. He has been in hiding at the US ambassador's residence since July 23, two days before Major Pierre Buyoya ousted him in a bloodless coup. However, sources close to the president, who although deposed has not resigned, denied that he was leaving the country. They also stressed that his wife would return after attending a family event that had been planned for some time.

The United States, meanwhile, abandoned plans for a Hercules military aircraft flight to Nairobi that had been mooted for Wednesday. By Tuesday afternoon, the

United Nations had still not obtained permission from Kenyan authorities for a specially chartered aircraft to ferry out expatriates working for UN agencies and nongovernmental organizations in Burundi. But UN sources said the plane, expected to carry about 50 passengers, should leave on Wednesday. They said all the organization's agencies operating here planned to evacuate half their expatriate personnel.

Military observers from the organization of African Unity (OAU), whose mission was halted following the coup, will also leave Burundi. Although all the embassies here have recommended that their nationals leave Burundi if there is no essential reason for staying, no one was speaking of evacuation.

At the Sabena offices, staff said they could cope with demand, and said most people were leaving for "the usual reasons," such as to study, for business or to take holidays. Diplomats said that 130 people were expected to arrive in Bujumbura on Tuesday evening aboard one of the two Belgian DC-10s. Neighboring states imposed the blockade, demanding a return to "constitutional order," following a regional summit in Arusha, northern Tanzania, on July 31.

Tanzania, the first to enforce the embargo, has partially lifted the ban, which has been condemned by international relief bodies, and will allow in humanitarian aid from the World Food Programme (WFP).

Seven lorries carrying 210 tonnes of food supplies were ready to leave Isaka, Tanzania, on Tuesday for Burundi but the drivers refused to set off after hearing of the exodus on the radio, WFP spokeswoman Brenda Barton said in Nairobi. The first serious consequence of the two-week-old sanctions is a fuel shortage, which prompted the new regime to impose severe rationing on motorists on Monday.

Civil servants from the trade ministry commandeered Bujumbura's football stadium, setting themselves up at school desks to distribute ration coupons for a month's supply to long lines of drivers waiting in the intense sun. All agreed the allocation was not enough, even "ridiculous" — 20 litres (five gallons) a month for private cars, 40 litres for taxis, 80 for the vans used as public transport, 400 litres for trucks and buses, 200 litres for tractors and six litres for motorbikes.

New Foreign Minister Luc Rukingama meanwhile arrived in Paris to try to persuade France that the coup led by Buyoya, a Tutsi who was president from 1987 to 1993, was justified in its aims. Rukingama earlier spent a three-day working visit in Belgium, Burundi's one-time colonial power. He told a press conference there

on Monday the embargo was causing hardship and serving only to boost the extremist cause.

The government formed by Buyoya was meant to stop ethnic massacres — which have claimed tens of thousands of lives over the course of nearly three years — and to re-establish the democratic process, the minister said.

In an interview with the French Catholic newspaper LA CROIX on Tuesday, the new Burundi Prime Minister Pascal-Firmin Ndimira affirmed that the tiny landlocked central African state "can hold out for a very long time" against sanctions.

Burundi: Last Commercial Flight Departs After Unexplained Delay

AB1308220096 Paris AFP in English
2156 GMT 13 Aug 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Bujumbura, Aug 13 (AFP) — The last commercial flight out of Burundi left Bujumbura airport for Brussels, late Tuesday [13 August], carrying scores of Burundians and foreign nationals, airport officials said. The Sabena DC-10 took off at 2145 GMT after an unexplained delay.

Burundi: Rwandan Refugees Refuse To Return Home

EA1308211296 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in Kirundi 1700 GMT 13 Aug 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Rwandan refugees in northern Burundi started to return home at the beginning of this month. Later on those who remained behind refused to go home. Here is an ABP reporter returning from Ngozi, Emile Kinund:

[Kinund] In the first 10 days of the month of August a number of Rwandan refugees in Magara camp, Ngozi Province, returned home voluntarily. Around 23,302 from the Magara camp safely returned home. Most of them returned home on 7, 8 and 9 August when more than 18,000 were repatriated to Rwanda. Looking at the way the repatriation took place, one would have guessed that all the refugees from the Magara camp, the only one still existing in Ngozi province, would have returned home by the end of this week since only around 32,000 refugees remained in the camp. But no one knows what happened and between last week and the beginning of this week, the refugees refused to be repatriated. The UNHCR vehicles from Burundi and Rwanda and other vehicles which had been hired returned empty.

Some UNHCR officials in Ngozi and the refugee camps give some of the reasons behind the refusal of the refugees to be repatriated. Some refugees refused to be

repatriated after rumors were spread among them. It is worth saying that there are those who did not want to return home and who started hiding in the hills, but local inhabitants are returning them to the authorities. Most of those who do not wish to return home took part in the genocide in the region and don't want to be brought to justice. They also try to stop innocent refugees from returning home.

Cameroon

Cameroon: Land Litigation Claims 2 Dead, 10 Seriously Wounded

AB1408093496 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
0730 GMT 14 Aug 96

[FBIS Translated Text] A land litigation between two villages in the Northwest Province of Cameroon resulted in two dead, 10 seriously wounded, large material damage, and over 2,000 displaced. This was announced yesterday by the Cameroon national radio. The conflict was between the villages of Ngi and Bambui near Bamenda, the Northwest Province capital.

Chad

Chad: New Foreign Minister Outlines Foreign Policy Aims

LD1308124396 Paris Radio France International in French 0630 GMT 13 Aug 96

[FBIS Translated Text] There has been a government reshuffle in Chad: Prime Minister Djimasta Koibla, who resigned on Sunday [11 August] in accordance with the Constitution, was reappointed to the post the same day. Yesterday he announced his new team, which contains a majority of new faces, including members of the opposition who gave their support to President Deby in the second round of the presidential election.

One such example is Mahamat Abdoulaye, chairman of the MPDT, the Movement for Progress and Democracy in Chad. As one of the unlucky candidates in the first round, he called for his supporters to vote for Idriss Deby in the second round. He has just been appointed secretary of state for rural development.

Another example is Saleh Kebzabo, chairman of the UNDD — the National Union for Development and Democracy. He was in third position after the first round [of the presidential election] and then gave his support to President Deby [for the second round]. He has just been appointed to the post of foreign minister. He explains how he views his task, in an interview with Jean-Karim Fall:

[Begin Kebzabo recording] First of all, I would like to say that foreign affairs is the preserve of the head of state, and the fact that President Deby called on me, entrusted me with this special area of responsibility is a sign of trust. I believe that, with his help, together we can undertake the major reforms necessary in our country and among them will be reforms in the field of foreign affairs.

I believe that the Foreign Ministry must recover its morale, its prestige, and its dynamism to ensure that the name of Chad is heard increasingly often and that it is taken seriously abroad. I believe that this can be achieved among the neighboring countries here, in Africa in general, and in the world as a whole. I believe that this is a lofty ambition aimed at ensuring that we become a linchpin in everyone's eyes. We must therefore adopt a very active regional policy to ensure that Chad maintains very good relations with all its neighbors and to ensure that Chadian foreign policy is a dynamic one, which aims to promote development. [end recording]

Sao & Tome Principe

Sao & Tome Principe: Premier Addresses Nation After 'Confrontations'

LD1308180896 Lisbon Radio Renascenca
in Portuguese 1700 GMT 13 Aug 96 to Europe

[FBIS Translated Text] There have been confrontations in Sao Tome, where the population are angry at the poor living conditions. This morning they staged a protest by blocking a number of roads, and the riot police went into action. As a result several people were injured and much material damage caused.

The situation forced the prime minister to address the nation. Armindo Vaz said that he was concerned at the way the situation was being exploited:

[Begin Vaz recording] What essentially concerns me — and is thus the reason for my convening this meeting with the media — is that this phenomenon, in my opinion, in the government's opinion, is being exploited for ends which we deem as most unedifying for the Sao Tomean nation. People speculate, they say whatever they like, no proper approaches are made to the sources and organizations actually concerned with the problem. This only helps to further complicate our present situation, especially since we know that we are experiencing a situation which we regard as one of widespread anarchy. [end recording]

Sao Tome & Principe: 2 Injured in Clashes Between Police, Demonstrators

AB1308203896 London BBC World Service
in English 1705 GMT 13 Aug 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The authorities in Sao Tome have decided to crack down after several days of protests against persistent power cuts and water shortages. Barricades started going up at the weekend, and the demonstrations come against the background of growing economic discontent since last month's presidential elections. And, today, there was a shooting incident when the Sao Tome security forces intervened. Here is Chris Simpson.

[Simpson] According to the latest reports from Sao Tome, one civilian and one policeman were injured in clashes in the capital, with the violence mainly confined to the (Rebok) district of the city. Stones were thrown at the police when they moved in to remove barricades put up by demonstrators. One police officer was injured. The police subsequently opened fire wounding one civilian. But, witnesses say the confrontations had been relatively small-scale.

In an effort to head off further protests, the Sao Tomean prime minister, Armindo Vaz d'Almeida has promised the electricity and water situation will improve. He has pledged that new generators are due to arrive in Sao Tome in September while the country's hydroelectric dams are also to be repaired. But, Mr. Vaz d'Almeida's promises have been accompanied by strong warnings that the disruption of traffic in the city will not be tolerated, and barricades must be removed.

But, according to Antonio Acquiar, a Sao Tomean journalist and analyst, the current measures being taken by the government are merely cosmetic and will do nothing to address what he describes as a total crisis. Mr. Acquiar said Sao Tome was currently without any real government. He said the failure to release the results of the presidential elections on July the 21st had undermined the government's credibility, and that the populace was furious about the continued corruption in high places, unemployment rates of up to 40 percent, and desperately low salaries. Mr. Acquiar said the only thing which would restore confidence in the government would be a real injection of political energy.

Somalia

Somalia: Hussein Aidid Reportedly Makes First Trip to Front Lines

AB1308213396 Paris AFP in English
1138 GMT 13 Aug 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Mogadishu, Aug 13 (AFP) — Somali warlord Hussein Aidid has made his first trip to the front lines, urging his militiamen in the middle and lower Shabelle River valleys southwest of the capital to "eliminate" opposing clan forces, his faction's radio station reported Tuesday [13 August].

It said the 33-year-old former US marine, who took over the faction's leadership on August 4 to replace his slain father, General Mohamed Farah Aidid, was accompanied by bodyguards aboard 10 armed wagons.

His visit followed fighting in the region between Aidid's militiamen and those loyal to north Mogadishu strongman Ali Mahdi Mohamed.

They are battling for control of the Ballidogle air base, built by the Soviet Union in the 1970s for the Somali air force, and the road between the base and Mogadishu.

A spokesman for Ali Mahdi meanwhile claimed that his militiamen had repulsed Aidid's men around Balad, 28 kilometres (17 miles) north of the capital, inflicting unspecified "heavy losses" on them and capturing weapons.

Tanzania

Tanzania: Government Allows Transport of Humanitarian Aid to Burundi

EA1308202696 Dar es Salaam Radio Tanzania
External Service in English 1600 GMT 13 Aug 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tanzania has decided to allow the World Food Program, WFP, to deliver humanitarian food aid to Burundi under economic sanctions. The move follows a request by the resident coordinator of the UN (system) in the country, Mr. (Victor Angelo).

The WFP executive director, Ms. Catherine Bertini, says she hopes the same spirit of cooperation will prevail among other countries of the region to ensure that humanitarian relief operations are not derailed as a result of sanctions. Earlier in a verbal note to the WFP the Tanzanian foreign minister also demanded special UN marks be put onto the trucks which would be under inspection at the Tanzania-Burundi border.

Eight countries including Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda have imposed economic sanctions on Burundi's military government which came to power last month. An estimated 300,000 people depend on WFP's relief

efforts. One month of food supplies remained inside Burundi. It was also concerned over the decision by the Kenyan Government not to allow WFP to fly passenger flights to and from Burundi.

Uganda

Uganda: New Rebel Group Emerges, Outlines Aims; Minister Comments

AB1408092396 London BBC World Service
in English 1505 GMT 13 Aug 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The last thing Uganda needs at the moment is another rebel group but this week another one crept out of the woodwork. They call themselves the Equatorial Nile People's Liberation Army, ENPLA, and they claim to be fighting on behalf of the indigenous people of Karamoja, in western Uganda. On the line to Nairobi, Elizabeth Ohene asked ENPLA spokesman, Apamu Hangazima, why they turned against the government:

[Begin recording] [Hangazima] Well, the most important thing we wanted to do was to bring to the attention of our people — our plighted people at home — and to world democratic opinion the situation in Karamoja, particularly, in the northeastern corner where the Dodos, Nyangeya, Napore, Mening, and Ik peoples are situated. The regime has launched an offensive of extermination against these peoples. They are indigenous peoples. Now, this is part of the ongoing offensive in the north but....

[Ohene, interrupting] Now why, why.... [pauses] now, excuse me, why would anybody want to launch an offensive against these people?

[Hangazima] Well, it is Dodos land that the largest reserves of rift gold in the world are found, that is in Lokedomule. These are the largest reserves of gold in the world. Now, the regime wants to clear the way for the unbridled and unrestricted plunder of this gold and an array of other minerals that are found in Karamoja, including platinum.

[Ohene] I don't know.... [pauses] I don't have any geological survey map to go on it but since when has this discovery of what you call the largest reserve of gold been made? Since when?

[Hangazima] The fact that the gold is there has been known for some time, and over the last two years there is a firm, an outfit out there, Branch Energy, an appendage of Executive Outcomes, which was the mercenaries recruiting agency from the days of apartheid South

Africa. Branch Energy has been given this job to do. They are now registered in the UK.

[Ohene] Tell me, what's wrong with exploiting the mineral resources if mineral resources there are on the land in Uganda? What's wrong with that?

[Hangazima] If the mineral resources are being exploited for the benefit of our peoples, nobody would have any quarrel with that. If they are going to be exploited to line the pockets of some people, then there is everything wrong about it. The indigenous people have had a rough ride over the last 120 years. The Ik, one of the people involved in this, were evicted from their ancestral lands in the Kibepo Valley, brutally evicted. They are now.... [pauses] these are hunter-gathering people that everybody regards as anthropological oddities, museum pieces. Nobody cares whether they die whatever happens to them, and now more than 12,000 of them, as I speak to you now, more than 12,000 have been.... [pauses] are now loitering in the Sudan, in war torn southern Sudan in camps in Lotuke and Kabekenyan and so on. All this is interrelated. So, it's a long-running piece of history, the suffering that is being meted out to these people, to the Dodos, to the Nyangeya, the Napore. They have been evicted from their natural habitat, from the environment they know, disrupted from their traditional ways of life because of the vast natural wealth in that part of the world.

[Ohene] Now, so this organization that you say you are spokesperson for, so what are you doing?

[Hangazima] Now, what we are doing, we have joined them in their war of self-defense.

[Ohene] When you say our people, who exactly do you mean? Who are you talking for?

[Hangazima] I am talking about ENPLA forces, forces of ENPLA, of the Star of the Nile campaign under the command of General Geoffrey Apalomery. They are in that area, they have joined the Dodos, they have joined the Nyangeya, they have joined the Napore, they have joined the Ik in their war for self-defense, in their war for existence. [end recording]

Apamu Hangazima of the Ugandan rebel group, ENPLA, speaking on the line from Nairobi. Well, we

put those claims about ethnic killings to Peter Lokirit, Uganda's new minister for Karamoja. On the line to Kampala, Elizabeth Ohene asked him what he made of ENPLA's allegation:

[Begin recording] [Lokirit] There is nothing of that type in northern Karamoja, and there is no problem there.

[Ohene] So, as far as you know, you are not having any problem with.... [pauses] Let me tell you the particular tribes that he mentions, he talks about the Dodos, the Nyangeya, the Napore, the Mening, and the Ik tribes. You are not having any particular problems with them?

[Lokirit] There is no problem with all those people. Dodos is the dominant tribe, with those smaller communities of the Ik, of the Nyangeya, these people don't have even.... [pauses] they are not armed, they are not fighters, they are just.... [pauses] They grow their maize and sorghum on the mountains, and there is nothing of that nature.

[Ohene] And the Equatorial Nile People's Liberation Army, have you ever heard of them?

[Lokirit] No, but they can't operate in Uganda, I mean, in Karamoja. In Karamoja, we don't need those things, and to us if they came there, I think they will find it rough. We cannot fight, and we have the capacity to remove anybody who wants to bring war to our soil.

[Ohene] So, as far as you know there is no war or anything like that going on in your region?

[Lokirit] Yeah, Elizabeth, there is nothing of that nature.

[Ohene] Have you had any opposition at all to the mining, the prospecting of gold in the area?

[Lokirit] Well, I am a new minister here. I hear some people want to be included, you know, in the whole exercise of doing some work. Some people are included. I think those who want to be included, and they are not included, could be grumbling but I have to go there and find out. I also want to pay a visit to that area. [end recording]

South Africa: Finance Minister Says Rand's Slide Should Not Cause Panic

MB1308191896 Johannesburg SABC 3 Television Network in English 1800 GMT 13 Aug 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Finance Minister Trevor Manuel says the public shouldn't panic about the fall of the rand. He says the currency will eventually stabilize. Mr. Manuel said South Africa was no longer isolated from the rest of the world and that currencies do fluctuate.

[Begin recording] [Correspondent Snuki Zikalala] The rand has taken a knock recently, but the finance minister says in the long term there's nothing to worry about. Mr. Manuel said the government's macroeconomic strategy was in place. There are indications that the government is committed to transforming the economy. Tax incentives have been announced for companies who invest in South Africa and create jobs. A London-based investment bank has been appointed to advise the government on privatization. The minister said short-term investments in the markets are the ones affecting the currency.

[Manuel] I think we've learned that we can't take a fight against those kinds of speculators. They have deeper pockets than what the Reserve Bank has. They've taken some reserve banks to the cleaners in various parts of the world. Those would create short-term fluctuations but in the long term, I think, as the economists would say, the fundamentals are sound. That's what we have to concentrate on.

[Zikalala] Mr. Manuel said the Reserve Bank had done a great job in protecting the rand. He was confident it would improve soon. The rand stabilized this afternoon below 4.50 to the dollar, but it's still anyone's guess when and if it will remain firm. [end recording]

South Africa: ANC Condemns PAGAD on Hamas, Hizbollah Support Threats

MB1308080796 Johannesburg SABC 2 Television Network in English 0400 GMT 13 Aug 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The ANC in the Western Cape has condemned threats by the organization, People Against Gangsterism and Drugs [PAGAD], to call in Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] and Hizbollah from the Middle East to support its war with gangs in the Cape Town area.

In a statement, the ANC said no matter how noble PAGAD's cause was, murdering drug lords was not the solution. The brutal attack on gang leader Rashaad Staggie set off a series of street battles on the Cape Flats. PAGAD, which was formed to stamp out gangs

and drugs, has declared a jihad, or holy war, in its fight against crime.

Yesterday the Western Cape legislature, in a special sitting to debate the crisis, heard calls for a state of emergency to be declared. The police were criticized for negotiating with criminals, and the government said it had called an urgent meeting with community leaders, including PAGAD.

In parliament, the National Party has called for a snap debate on the gangland war, in view of what it calls the tragic and protracted conflict.

In Gauteng, Muslim leaders in the East Rand town of Benoni have agreed to meet the police to discuss their concerns about crime. This follows an angry response from communities in Lenasia and Laudium to a lack of action against gangs and drug dealers.

South Africa: Islamic Unity Convention Denies Hamas, Hizbollah in Country

MB1408110396 Johannesburg SABA in English 0953 GMT 14 Aug 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cape Town Aug 14 SABA -- The Iranian-backed Hezbollah and Palestinian Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] guerrilla organisations had no role to play in South Africa and would only be welcomed in South Africa as visitors, the Islamic Unity Convention [IUC] said on Wednesday [14 August].

IUC spokesman Ganief Hendricks said the two organisations had "played their roles before we had a change of government".

Hendricks' comment follows the claim earlier this week by People Against Gangsterism and Drugs [PAGAD] commander Ali "Phantom" Parker that PAGAD had the support of Hezbollah and Hamas.

Parker was quoted as saying: "We will have to defend the mothers and fathers of this country and we have received offers of help from the Mujahedin (of Afghanistan), Hezbollah and Hamas. At the moment we have not invited them to come to our aid but should we, they will come by the planeload."

Hendricks also denied there were any Muslim cells in South Africa, but said if there were such cells "they should disband immediately". He said reports had appeared in the media that the IUC wanted to help establish an Islamic state in South Africa and wanted to overthrow the government.

The IUC viewed with contempt efforts to label the IUC as an extremist organisation and had warned its rank and file members they would be sidelined if they promoted

this image. "That we have constituent members who have rank and file members who have strong views may be true, but it shows that we have managed to accommodate and provide a home for a diversity of people and organisations across the political spectrum not seen before in any national structure in the country."

Hendricks said that since a march on Minister Dullah Omar's house about a month ago, relations between the IUC leadership and some members of PAGAD had been tense.

The events of the past weeks, in which PAGAD had clashed with gangsters and the police, had delayed an IUC meeting with Omar "especially after a frivolous report by THE CAPE TIMES stating that PAGAD wanted to kill him".

"We are outraged at the attempt of THE CAPE TIMES to suggest that we want to overthrow the state based on their malicious analysis of so-called intelligence reports," Hendricks said. "We do not have any constituent member who wants to establish an Islamic state in South Africa. THE CAPE TIMES clearly wants to estrange the IUC from the broader South African community by 'shouting wolf' with their sedition rhetoric."

He said the IUC's record showed a willingness to contribute constructively to the issues of the day "in a South Africa we care for".

THE CAPE TIMES was out of step in their war against the IUC and had compromised the ethics of professional journalism. "There are staff members who have dissociated themselves with this. Their peers are perturbed that such journalism exists and those guilty are still allowed to bring the profession into disrepute."

"THE CAPE TIMES must transform or close down," Hendricks said.

South Africa: Police Arrest PAGAD Leader on Murder, Sedition Charges

MB1308084296 Johannesburg SABC 2 Television Network in English 0500 GMT 13 Aug 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Police have made a breakthrough in their investigation into the war between vigilantes and gang leaders in the Western Cape. This follows the brutal killing of gang leader Rashaad Staggie a week ago, when the organization, PAGAD [People Against Gangsterism and Drugs], marched on Staggie's house in Salt River to demand an end to drug dealing.

Police spokesman Captain John Sterrenberg said this morning a man had been arrested on charges of sedition

and murder. The man, an alleged leader of PAGAD, would probably appear in court today, and more arrests were likely. He said the police were investigating charges of sedition against PAGAD, and following police representations, two advocates had been made available by the attorney general to assist with the investigation.

Police have asked PAGAD leaders Farouk Jaffer and Mohammed Ali Parker to contact them in connection with their investigation into the gangland violence.

South Africa: South African Press Review for 13 Aug

MB1308142396

[FBIS Report]

BUSINESS DAY

Zimbabwe's Economic Mismanagement — Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 13 August in a page-10 editorial comments on Anglo American's sale of an interest in its Bindura nickel mine to Zimbabwe's Government. The Bindura sale "came after the Mugabe government's xenophobic and antibusiness incitement to persuade Zimbabweans to go to the polls." Now Mugabe's problem is to "put the racial genie back in the bottle." BUSINESS DAY believes Mugabe's best move "would be to ensure that the shares government acquires are quickly sold to black investors who are not his political cronies." "Africa is changing rapidly as many countries ditch the follies of three decades of post-colonial economic mismanagement. Zimbabwe often gives the impression of excluding itself from that select group."

THE CITIZEN

Militancy of PAGAD Viewed — Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 12 August in its page-6 editorial comments on the killing of a gang leader by members of the People Against Gangsterism and Drugs, PAGAD, saying this community defense group "has taken on a militancy that holds great dangers for law and order." THE CITIZEN is concerned by the "threats made by PAGAD spokesmen against journalists and newspapers which report on its activities." "We cannot accept that the Press can be openly threatened by PAGAD. The government must see to it that PAGAD acts within the law and within the restraints imposed by the law."

Liberia

Liberia: State Council Member Boley Returns After 5-Month Absence

AB1308223596 London BBC World Service
in English 1505 GMT 13 Aug 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Liberian faction leader, George Boley, is back home after a five-month absence from the country during which his fighters were involved in some of the bloodiest faction fighting Monrovia has ever seen. The Liberian Peace Council joint forces with the mainly Krahn opponents of Charles Taylor, the leader of the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia], even though both men are on the six-member collective presidency of Liberia, the Council of State. In fact Boley wasn't even in the country when the clashes broke out on 6 April and he has returned home to find that things were in a shambles. He has just been back to the Executive Mansion for the first time. On the line, Josephine Hazely asked Mr. Boley what sort of state his office was in.

[Begin recording] [Boley] My entire office was looted and I happened to be the only Council Member out of six of us whose office was looted. I understand from the security services that was done under the orders of Mr. Taylor. Mr. Taylor is a member of this council or I would never have done to them what they did to me but they must have some reasons but that.... [pauses] You know Josephine, that is behind us. My office is being refurnished, that is regrettable because this country has no money to furnish any offices but I have to have some place to sit down so I visited the office today and the [words indistinct] and I worked from there. I even worked in it. That is why I have to work to bring peace in this country.

[Hazely] Now you were speaking quite cordially of your relations with Charles Taylor and Alhaji Koromah, but we all know that these are only words because you did not have a good relationship with them before you left and now as you have said, your house has been burnt down, your office has been stripped, so surely, all is not well?

[Boley] All is well. That, I mean that is vanity. All that is vanity is vanity, that is what the Bible says. Destroying my home and my office and the homes of thousands of Liberians, thousands of people displaced at Greystone and other places is pathetic. Once we all have life in us, life goes on. For us, bygones are bygones and I am still calling on the brothers, I have the olive branch, we want peace, let us disarm, let's remove the checkpoints, let's restore sanity to this community, let's move on with life, open the schools for our children to go to school, and let us move this process forward. That is our commitment.

[Hazely] Now, when are you going to open up the areas of Liberia you control, because I mean, you know, that is the next step, isn't it? You should be opening up your areas.

[Boley] Since a year ago, our areas have been opened. ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] was deployed there, ECOMOG retreated from there voluntarily without coercion, voluntarily when this 6 April incident occurred. Don't make any mistake. We have taken the lead. We will continue to take the lead. If ECOMOG is ready to deploy tomorrow, I am personally prepared to escort them into these areas to make sure that they are there and those areas are restored to their safe haven status, so that Liberians can be at peace with ourselves and be at peace with the rest of mankind.

[Hazely] [words indistinct] that you, on your part, you are still insisting on total, full disarmament of all factions before the elections?

[Boley] It has to be. It has to be. To allow armed gangsters to go around intimidating people is unacceptable.

[Hazely] So when are you going to start disarming? When are you going to start disarming your own armed gangsters?

[Boley] We started disarming since last year. We were prepared to start like last week and as soon as the process can get under way we are prepared to start disarmament. [end recording]

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